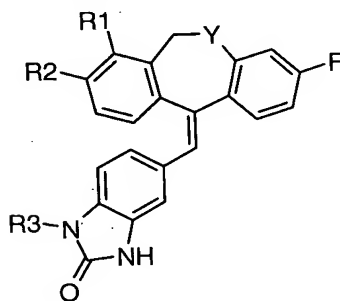


Amendments to the Claims

- (Original) A compound of the formula:



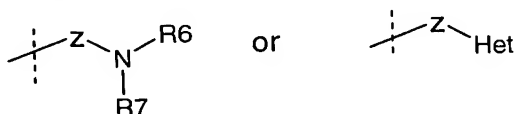
Formula I

wherein ,

Y represents CH₂ or O;

R1 and R2 each independently represent hydrogen or fluoro

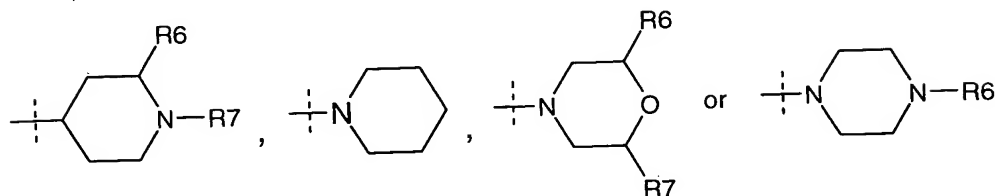
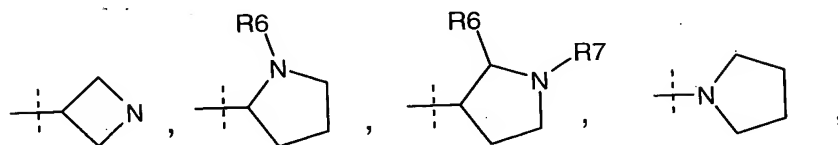
R3 represents a group of the formula:



wherein Z represents (CH₂)_n or -CR₄R₅-CH₂-;

n represents 0-3; and

Het represents a group of the formula:

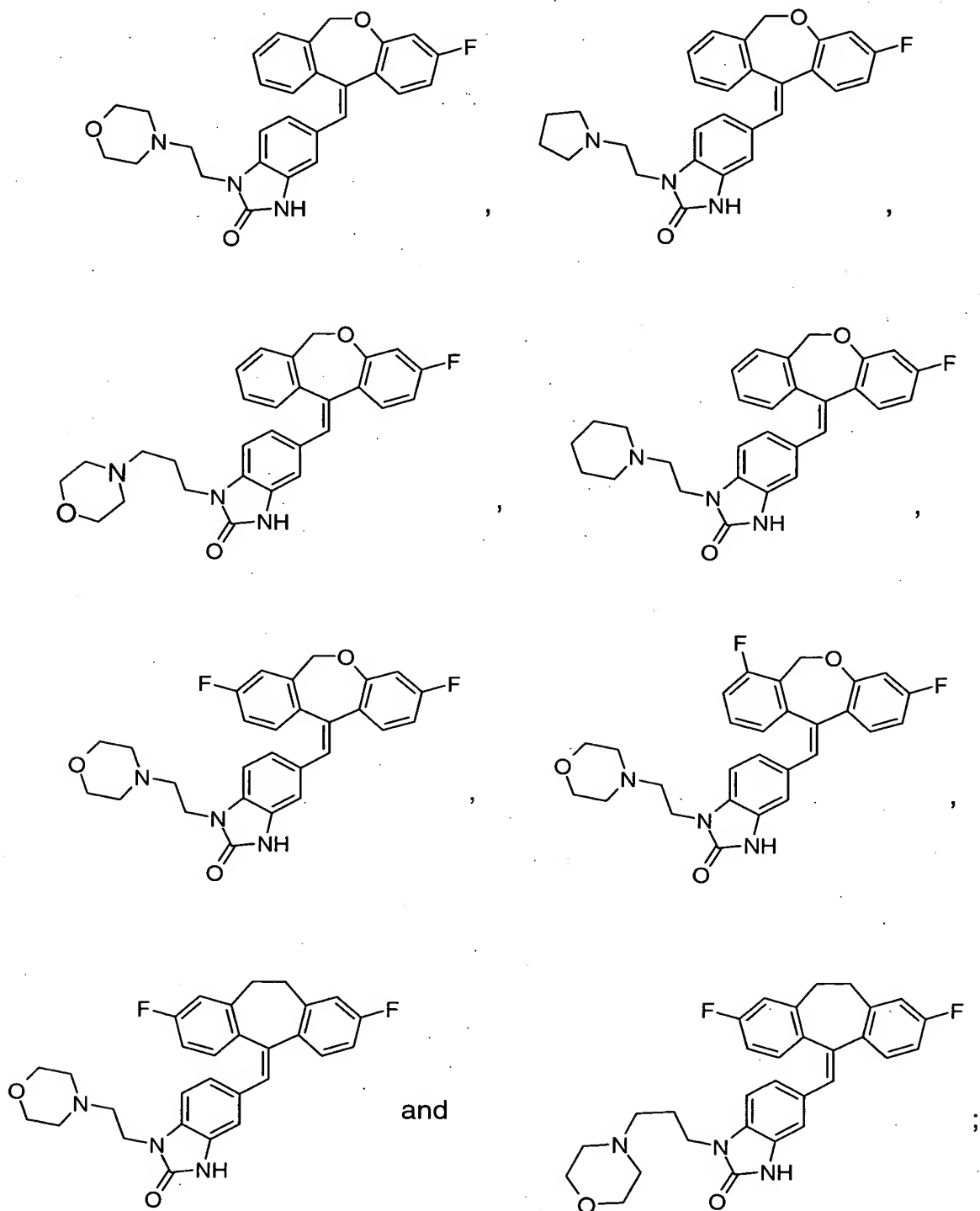


R4 and R5 each independently represent at each occurrence hydrogen or methyl;

R6 and R7 each independently represent at each occurrence hydrogen, methyl, or

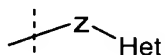
ethyl;

provided Formula I does not represent a compound selected from the group consisting of



or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

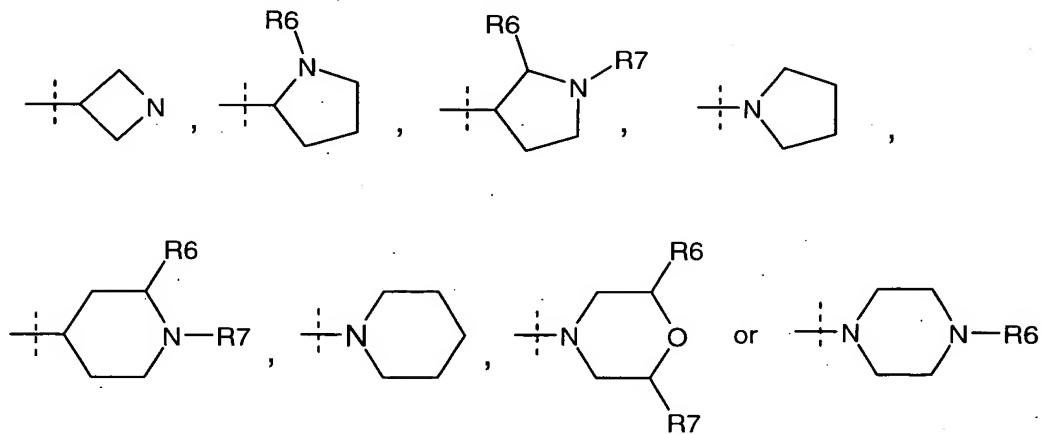
2. (Original) The compound according to Claim 1 wherein R¹ represents hydrogen.
3. (Original) The compound according to Claim 1 wherein R¹ represents fluoro.
4. (Currently Amended) The compound according to ~~any one of Claims 1-3~~ Claim 1 wherein R² represents hydrogen.
5. (Currently Amended) The compound according to ~~any one of Claims 1-3~~ Claim 1 wherein R² represents fluoro.
6. (Currently Amended) The compound according to ~~any one of Claims 1-5~~ Claim 1 wherein R³ represents a group of the formula:



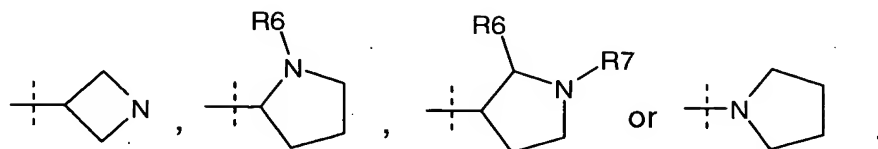
wherein Z represents (CH₂)_n or -CR₄R₅-CH₂-;

n represents 0-3; and

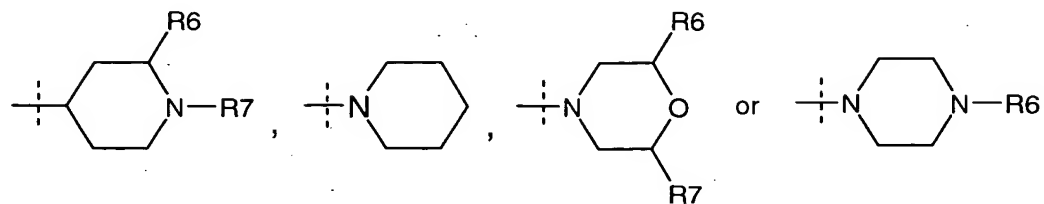
Het represents a group of the formula:



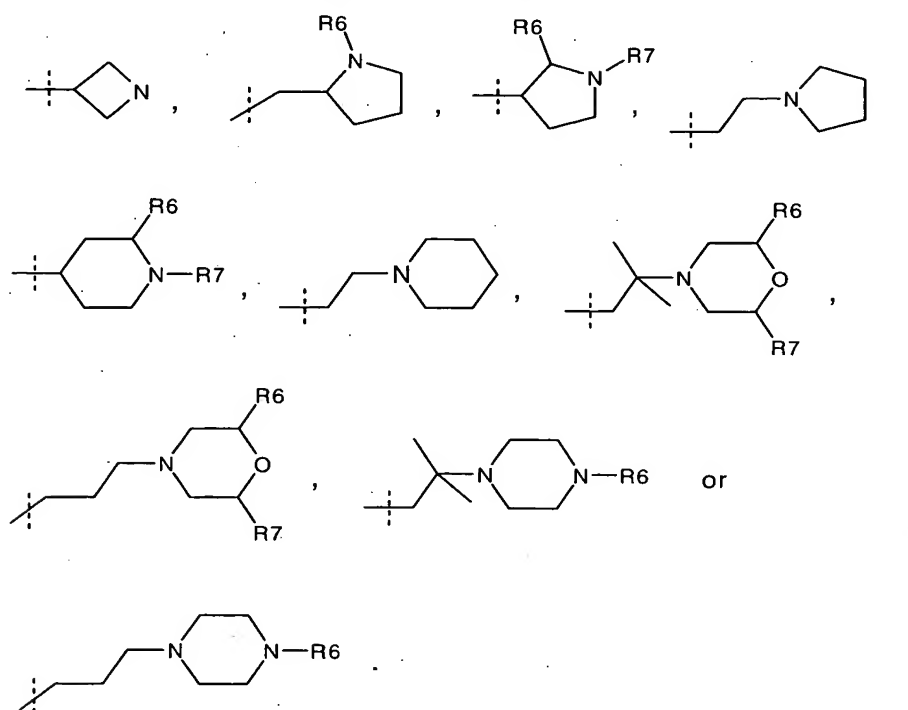
7. (Original) The compound according to Claim 6 wherein Het represents a group of the formula:



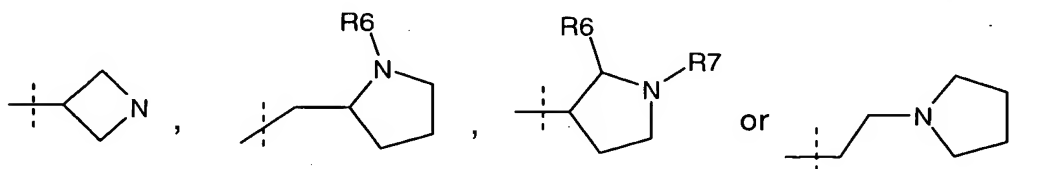
8. (Original) The compound according to Claim 6 wherein Het represents a group of the formula:



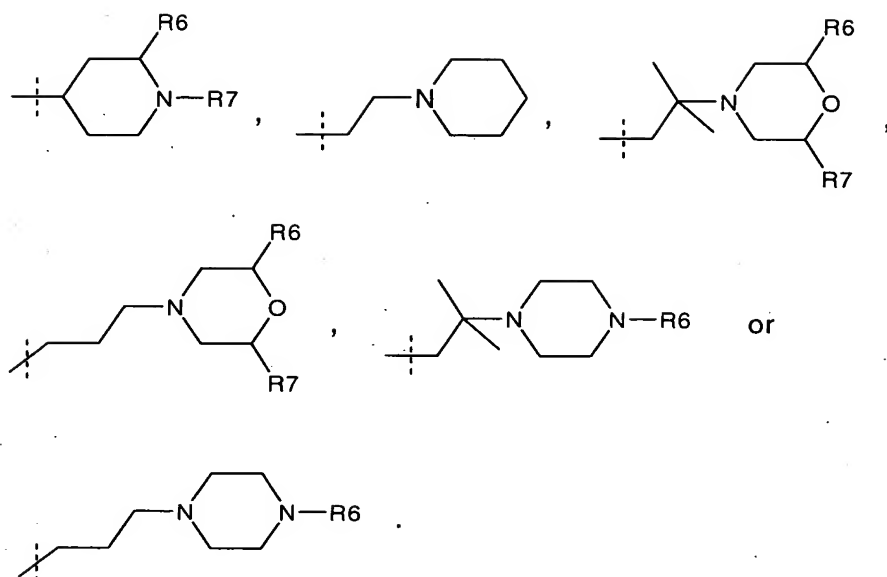
9. (Currently Amended) The compound according to ~~any one of Claims 1-6~~ Claim 6 wherein R³ represents a group of the formula:



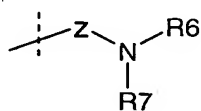
10. (Original) The compound according to Claim 9 wherein R³ represents a group of the formula:



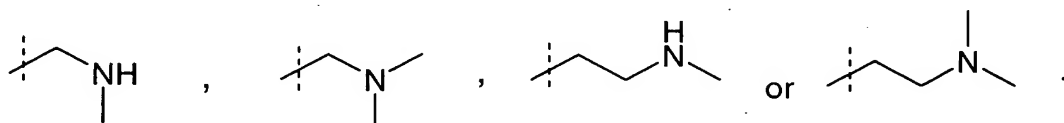
11. (Original) The compound according to Claim 9 wherein R³ represents a group of the formula:



12. (Currently Amended) The compound according to ~~any one of Claims 1-5~~Claim 1 wherein R³ represents a group of the formula:



13. (Original) The compound according to Claim 12 wherein R³ represents a group of the formula:



14. (Currently Amended) A pharmaceutical composition comprising the compound according to ~~any one of Claims 1-13~~Claim 1 in combination with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, diluent, or excipient.

15. (Currently Amended) A method of treating a disorder selected from the group consisting of Conn's Syndrome, primary and secondary hyperaldosteronism, increased sodium retention, increased magnesium and potassium excretion (diuresis), increased water retention, hypertension (isolated systolic and combined systolic/diastolic), arrhythmias, myocardial fibrosis, myocardial infarction, Bartter's Syndrome, disorders associated with

excess catecholamine levels, diastolic and systolic congestive heart failure (CHF), peripheral vascular disease, diabetic nephropathy, cirrhosis with edema and ascites, esophageal varices, Addison's Disease, muscle weakness, increased melanin pigmentation of the skin, weight loss, hypotension, hypoglycemia, Cushing's Syndrome, obesity, hypertension, glucose intolerance, hyperglycemia, diabetes mellitus, osteoporosis, polyuria, polydipsia, inflammation, autoimmune disorders, tissue rejection associated with organ transplant, malignancies such as leukemias and lymphomas, acute adrenal insufficiency, congenital adrenal hyperplasia, rheumatic fever, polyarteritis nodosa, granulomatous polyarteritis, inhibition of myeloid cell lines, immune proliferation/apoptosis, HPA axis suppression and regulation, hypercortisolemia, modulation of the Th1/Th2 cytokine balance, chronic kidney disease, stroke and spinal cord injury, hypercalcemia, hyperglycemia, acute adrenal insufficiency, chronic primary adrenal insufficiency, secondary adrenal insufficiency, congenital adrenal hyperplasia, cerebral edema, thrombocytopenia, and Little's syndrome, systemic inflammation, inflammatory bowel disease, systemic lupus erythematosus, discoid lupus erythematosus, polyarthritis nodosa, Wegener's granulomatosis, giant cell arthritis, rheumatoid arthritis, osteoarthritis, hay fever, allergic rhinitis, contact dermatitis, atopic dermatitis, exfoliative dermatitis, urticaria, angioneurotic edema, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, asthma, tendonitis, bursitis, Crohn's disease, ulcerative colitis, autoimmune chronic active hepatitis, hepatitis, cirrhosis, inflammatory scalp alopecia, panniculitis, psoriasis, inflamed cysts, pyoderma gangrenosum, pemphigus vulgaris, bullous pemphigoid, dermatomyositis, eosinophilic fasciitis, relapsing polychondritis, inflammatory vasculitis, sarcoidosis, Sweet's disease, type 1 reactive leprosy, capillary hemangiomas, lichen planus, erythema nodosum, acne, hirsutism, toxic epidermal necrolysis, erythema, multiform, cutaneous T-cell lymphoma, psychoses, cognitive disorders, memory disturbances, mood disorders, depression, bipolar disorder, anxiety disorders, and personality disorders, comprising administering to a patient in need thereof a compound as claimed in ~~any one of Claims 1-13~~Claim 1, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

16. (Original) The method according to Claim 15 wherein the disorder is selected from the group consisting of is diastolic or systolic congestive heart failure, inflammation, rheumatoid arthritis, an autoimmune disorder, asthma, or chronic obstructive pulmonary disease.

17. (Original) The method according to Claim 16 wherein the disorder is diastolic or systolic congestive heart failure, inflammation, or rheumatoid arthritis.

18. (Cancelled)

19. (Cancelled)